

# **Murray City Municipal Council Chambers Murray City, Utah**

---

**T**he Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah, met on Tuesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November 2005 at 6:30 p.m., for a meeting held in the Murray City Council Chambers, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

Roll Call consisted of the following

Krista Dunn,	Council Chair - Conducted
Pat Griffiths,	Council Member
Jim Brass,	Council Member
Robbie Robertson,	Council Member
Jeff Dredge,	Council Member

Ms. Griffiths conducted meeting.

Others who attended:

Daniel Snarr,	Mayor
Jan Wells,	Chief of Staff
G. L. Critchfield	Deputy City Attorney
Shannon Huff Jacobs,	Council Director
Carol Heales,	City Recorder
Gil Rodriguez,	Fire Chief
Randy Willden,	Battalion Chief
Phil Markham,	Deputy Director, Public Services
Danny Astill,	Water Superintendent
Shalae Steadman,	Murray City Youth Government
Marissa Purser,	Murray City Youth Government
Preston Wittmer,	Murray City Youth Government
Brock Delton,	Murray City Youth Government
Marta Nelson,	Murray City Youth Government
Tyson Tharp,	Murray City Youth Government
Craig Campbell,	Murray City Youth Government
Chelsea Brinkerhoff,	Murray City Youth Government
Aimee Wiscomb,	Murray City Youth Government
Lexie-Olivia Grant,	Murray City Youth Government
Trisha Potts,	Murray City Youth Government
Amanda Myrick	Murray City Youth Government
Ty Christensen,	Murray City Youth Government
Kate Low,	Murray City Youth Government
Krisina Lewis	Murray City Youth Government

Maria Gibbs,  
Crystal Liechty,  
Boy Scouts,  
Murray Citizens

Murray City Youth Government  
Murray Journal  
Troop #393

**A. OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Pledge of Allegiance

T. C. Oborn

2. Approval of Minutes

October 25, 2005

Ms. Griffiths made a motion to adopt minutes of October 25, 2005 with minor changes.

Mr. Robertson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

All ayes

3. Special Recognition(s)

- a. Consider a Joint Resolution of the Mayor and the Municipal Council of Murray City, Utah for Commendation of Pam Taylor.

Pam Taylor, former City Employee who recently retired and we would like to recognize her/

Ms. Dunn read the Resolution.

Ms. Griffiths made a motion to adopt the Joint Resolution proudly.

Mr. Brass 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Call Vote Recorded by Ms. Heales.

**AYE/NAY**

A Mr. Dredge  
A Mr. Robertson  
A Mr. Brass  
A Ms. Griffiths  
A Ms. Dunn

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Snarr recognized how important his employees are for the overall operation of the City.

He expressed on behalf of the City our appreciation to Pam for her 27 years, 11 months and three weeks of service Mayor Snarr told Pam she deserves to have time to spend time with her family. She deserves it because she has earned it.

Ms. Griffiths commented about how much she values Pam's friendship. Our friendship goes back when our boys were in little league football and baseball. I cherish the memories that we shared and wish her well in her retirement.

Ms. Dunn thanked Pam. It has been a pleasure knowing her and working with her.

- b. Introduction and Swearing-In of the Murray City Youth Government Officers for 2005-2006.

Ms. Dunn had each of the Murray City Youth Government Council stand and tell the audience your name and what your position is with the Youth City Government.

Wayne Oberg, Parks and Recreation is the Advisor for the Murray City Youth Government. He noted these students are the future of our community and our nation.

Ms. Heales swore in the Officers.

**B.. CITIZEN COMMENTS** (Comments are limited to 3 minutes unless otherwise approved by the Council.)

**Marta Nelson, 5495 South Walden Meadows Drive, Murray, UT**

Ms. Nelson was nominated by her advisor to give their spiel on their fund raiser. Every year the Youth Council have an opportunity of going to a Youth City Council Town Meeting at Utah State University, being a wonderful opportunity. This year they have a lot of members of the Youth Government that would like to go. It cost money to go and they only have a small budget. The Youth Government is going to make pumpkin pies from scratch with real pumpkin. They are \$8.00 each and if anyone is interested please get a hold of any City Youth Council member or Marta Nelson. We would really appreciate your support.

1. Report and Public Comment on Murray City Water System.

Mr. Markham said he & Mr. Astill appreciate the opportunity to address the Council and Mayor in these meetings. This opportunity happens twice a year. We feel it is very important to keep you informed of what our department is doing and we the ever-changing issues faced to provide enough water of high quality to all of our citizens. Mr. Markham was pleased to say there were no surprises this year. It was a very good year.

Mr. Markham reviewed what issues he and Mr. Astill were going to address: amount of water pumped during this previous busy water season; water impact fee revenue; water demand vs. water rights; well performance; and current and future projects improving the system.

**Murray City's water use comparison for 2005.**

Mr. Markham noted Murray City has entered into an interesting time in the water industry. They are dealing with the issue of conservation. In 2001, prior to developing a conservation mind set, they pumped a lot more water, 3 billion gallons of water. After that year Murray City began an education program to promote conservation which would affect revenue as well. That is when the water department came to the citizens and said we need to develop a conservation rate schedule in order to sustain the financial well being of our system. The less water we sell, the less revenue we bring in, yet the costs will continue to go up.

Mr. Markham said the department came up with an estimate that was based on the spring supply that the City would sell. The department has settled on a figure of approximately 3 million units per year. They have had financial reviews of the system and Mr. Whetzel can attest to the fact that the department has met its budget goal and have no financial concerns with the amount of water they are pumping at this time.

The water sales for 2006, 2.620 million gallons which are actual numbers and still have spring to go. The sales figures could be dramatically affected by a dry-hot spring. Then again, the sales figures may not change an awful lot over the course of the winter. The next five months will not vary a great deal.

**Water Impact Fee Revenue**

One area which they have seen quite an increased connection fees due to the hospital and increased building is the connection fees. It is important to note that these connection fees can only be used for capital projects. They are not part of our annual maintenance project. Improvements to the system and future expansion, to ensure the viability of the system, are funded with connection fees.

Mr. Markham continued \$238 million in revenue is what has been budgeted for the department to reach this year. Mr. Markham feels they will easily reach the projected water sales.

### **Water Rates**

Mr. Markham next November the last phase of the water rates structure will be implemented. The minor adjustment, which will be a 1-1/2% increase, will signal the end of this round of water rate adjustments. They do anticipate bringing before the Council, after a thorough review of their financial situation in the Water Department, for another multiple year of water rate schedule, where they can manage minor cost increases or fluctuations over the next five years.

Mr. Markham said the department never wants to be in a situation where they are so far behind that they have to have a huge rate increase

### **Water Demand vs. Water Supply**

Mr. Markham noted the City's peak water demand, pre-conservation, was 27.8 million gallons per day. That demand has dropped to 17.3 million gallons per day through conservation. The water department can't take credit for all of the conservation education. They ride the coat tails of many of the Governor's programs. The decreased demand says a lot about the willingness of the residents to just be reasonable about water use. We have asked people to not waste water, and the data shows we haven't.

Mr. Markham noted, our maximum supply pre-drought was 27.3 million gallons per day, we were in trouble. Our maximum supply could not meet our maximum day demand over a sustained period. That has changed with the addition of Grant Well and Reservoir and the enhancement of the Howe Well also. Now the available supply is 32.3 million gallons per day. When you couple that with our future estimate, this is with the hospital, with redevelopment at 25 million gallons per day, you can see that we are very confident that we can meet any water needs for Murray City and its residents in the future.

The demand is projected out for ten years. One thing, our water district is not growing a great deal, it is redeveloping. The waters districts that are in trouble are the ones that have farm land or they have open space that is being converted to housing and they have massive influxes of new customers. They are having a hard time dealing with this increased demand. We are fortunate that our water district is staying status quo as far as the number of people that we serve. .

Mr. Astill gave a recap of the Water Department's improvements

Mr. Astill said they had one surprise this season. Monroc Well a summertime well, had a phase alarm on the electrical system and all of a sudden it dropped off line. A little metal tab which was welded between the pipes. That tab came off and it came completely unscrewed and about 260 feet of the column and the pump on the very end of it dropped all the way to the bottom of the well.

The City got a well driller to do repairs, but wasn't experienced. So, the City brought in another well driller who was familiar with retrieving things at the bottom of wells. First the driller TV'd to find out what was down there. The cable is very heavy and you can't bend it by hand, you have to have a machine to bend it. The weight of everything as it went down with the water in the column and the pump on it is was close to 14,000 pounds. It took two cranes to get that cable out.

The driller was able to retrieve the equipment, but the City had to replace the pump, motor and line. It was expensive, but the water department budgets for unforeseen problems, and hopes that the City doesn't have to use the funds. So we are in good shape because funds were available.

## **PROJECTS**

**The Winchester Line Project** is completed. Prior to that line going in, there was only one line going across at the Parkway to supply all that area. With all the developments a second line source was needed over there. There was plenty of water, but you can't depend upon one line loop in there. An old line actually went across the bridge, but it had rotted out. Therefore for part of this project some braces and new casing to be hung.

Mr. Astill continued, the walkway bridge was put under there a year ago. It so they had a special high density polyethylene liner built specially for it a big u-shaped thing.

**Vine Street Project**, is one of the oldest lines. It was an old 10" line wrapped in redwood with wire wrapped around it. Pieces of it are in the museum. The line on the south side of the road was a 10" steel line and the line on the north side was 6" cast iron line. Up at about the LDS church on the north side of the road is where that 6" line ended.

When State street was done, they planned for the future of Vine Street and put a larger line 14" line in. This new line will outlive everybody.

**McGee Tunnel project**, they are still working on the best way to handle this project.

**Rehabilitation of the 20" line on 9<sup>th</sup> East from 5900 South to Winchester Street.** They have new technology out and they are milking that line along so they can have the technology help fix it without tearing up that road. There are two lines in there and both lines, are needed.

Other water line improvements that have been identified under the Master Plans: residential streets getting rid of the old 4" lines; fire hydrant replacement.. There are still a lot of old 4" fire hydrants out there. We budget money every year to work on those and replace them.

Mr. Markham went on to talk about age of Murray's system. There are 27 meters that are 35 years old. The water industry calculates out the percentage of loss that a water meter attains over its life. As some water meter ages they can get sloppy and wear out and allow water to go through without registering that. This has become a major concern because it is estimated between \$2 and 250 thousand dollars a year of unrealized revenue is lost through faulty meters.

It costs money to replace meters, and there are several options out there. The cheapest situation to use the manual read meters which we have. Meter readers go and open the lid and punch in the numbers. Some meters are touch read, a technology that has been in place for about ten years is radio read meters, which allow one to read the entire city in one day, perhaps 1-1/2 days. You just drive down the street and the meters send out a radio signal and it records the amount of water is being used.

This could potentially technologically change the way we do our sewer bills as well. By reading every meter in the City every month we could spot faster problems such as if a person has high consumption in one month in the winter, it would raise a red flag, and a technician would check it.

Such a system costs money and we don't have current figures. We are estimating it would be about \$3 million to replace every meter in the city. That however can be done over time. You can do sections of the city at a time. It could be done in 3 years, 4 years, 10 years. It is something that we intend to continue to talk about and it will be in the forefront of our discussions with you during our budget discussions.

Mr. Markham continued, because of the amount of revenue that is being lost, many of the water meter companies are very aggressive in selling and marketing their programs, because they will say "we will basically loan you the money to put our meters in, because we know that you are going to get that kind of increased revenue.

It is something that we need to look at. In the next couple of years, Mr. Markham thinks we would have the opportunity to put out some RFP's and get an idea of what could be available for our system and what the best fit for our system would be. It is not something we will be asking the Council for this spring, we are just giving you heads up on some of these issues so that as we think about rates in the future and as we think about the future of our system, we can plan efficiently and effectively.

Ms. Griffiths thanked Mr. Markham and Mr. Astill for such a thorough and informative report. Every year she is grateful for their and expertise..

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **C. CONSENT AGENDA**

None scheduled.

### **D. PUBLIC HEARING(S)**

**PUBLIC HEARING #1036  
Consider a Resolution declaring the  
property located at approximately 5151 South  
1100 West, Taylorsville City, Salt  
Lake County, State of Utah, as Surplus.**

- a. Staff and sponsor presentations, public comment and discussion prior to Council action on the following matter:

Consider a Resolution declaring the property located at approximately 5151 South 1100 West, Taylorsville City, Salt Lake County, State of Utah, as Surplus.

Staff Sponsor: Phil Markham

Mr. Markham recapped what Mr. Hill had mentioned in his memo to the Council. The property was purchased in 1990 as part of property purchases to enable the City to develop the Jordan River Parkway. This section of the purchase lies on the west side of the river, it is outside of Murray City boundaries, it is of no interest to Murray City. In fact if we had known at the time, we would have taken steps to separate this from the purchase.



Mr. Hill was approached by an adjacent property owner to inquire about purchasing this piece of property. Mr. Hill first went to Taylorsville City and told them of this inquiry and asked if they were interested in it for park land or as part of their Jordan River Parkway, they declined and therefore Mr. Hill preceded with getting a survey, an appraisal and that is where we are at, at this point. We support the surplusing of this property if the Council so desire.

According to Mr. Hill's figures, the property is valued at \$16,775.00. It is approximately .77 acres (3/4 of an acre). In addition to the property price \$1,250.00 was spent for an appraisal and a survey of the property for \$2,875.00, which brings the total to approximately \$21,000.00. Mr. Hill has also mentioned in his memo recommending that the property be sold with a Quit-Claim-Deed and allow that the purchaser be able to purchasing terms if they would like.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED**

- b. Council consideration of the above matter to follow Public Hearing.

Mr. Brass made a motion to adopt the resolution declaring the property located at approximately 5151 South 1100 West, Taylorsville City, Salt Lake County, State of Utah, as Surplus.

Mr. Robertson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Call Vote Recorded by Ms. Heales.

### **AYE/NAY**

A Mr. Dredge  
A Mr. Robertson  
A Mr. Brass  
A Ms. Griffiths  
A Ms. Dunn

Motion passed unanimously.

### **E UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None scheduled.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Consider an Ordinance enacting Chapter 8.18 of the Murray City Municipal Code, providing for Cost Recovery Procedures for Hazardous Materials Emergencies, Aggravated Fire Emergencies, Aggravated Medical Emergencies, and Non-Emergency Responses.

Presentators: Chief Gil Rodriguez & Battalion Chief Randy Willden

Chief Rodriguez stated this is an ordinance to allow the Fire Department recover costs incurred in hazardous materials and arson fires. t.

Mr. Nakamura noted the ordinance does provide for an internal appeal process should there be a dispute as to whether or not it a reimbursable cost that you can appeal internally and also to the courts.

Ms. Griffiths made a motion to adopt the Ordinance enacting Chapter 8.18 of the Murray City Municipal Code, providing for Cost Recovery Procedures for Hazardous Materials Emergencies, Aggravated Fire Emergencies, Aggravated Medical Emergencies, and Non-Emergency Responses.

Mr. Dredge 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

**AYE/NAY**

A Mr. Dredge  
A Mr. Robertson  
A Mr. Brass  
A Ms. Griffiths  
A Ms. Dunn

Motion passed unanimously.

**G. MAYOR**

1. Report
  - ✓ Mayor Snarr noted, last week he had an opportunity to meet with IHC, their landscape architects, and the architects for the entire project, to discuss the landscaping of the IHC Intermountain Medical Center property. One of the issues is the repository which is Cottonwood Street and part of Woodrow Street. There are some issues of the amount about water that they can put on that landscaped area. That area will become a Xeriscape system with a drip water system to facilitate limited vegetation, grass and other plants that don't require a lot of water.

- ✓ Mayor Snarr was excited about this, because it could be the largest mitigation project in the state of Utah as far as Xeriscape goes when it is completed. A lot of ideas for the project have come trips to the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District demonstration facility out in West Jordan.

When they move into the property and away from the repository you will see more grass, etc. and other areas where the visitor's, patients, service employees go and relax with some more green-scape, not that the area that is going to be Xeriscape won't have some green in it. They will start next summer on that particular portion of the project. Again, it is a way to address dust mitigation on the side. They need to move very aggressively with paving as much of the sight as possible down toward the north end. They will have to leave some of the property open, for the trailers and other equipment that will be brought in on the site which will be there until the project is completed.

Mayor Snarr stated they did say they were looking at opening during a five or six months phased in period, which is how long it would actually take to move into the entire facility. Even though portions will be completed by next fall, the Lab, Central Utility Plant, will be completed next year and perhaps the Oncology and Ambulatory Care, even though the structure is just getting started, there is a good possibility they will be able to complete those. Most likely they will not open them up for full utilization, but will phase them in over a period of time.

Ms. Dunn, Mr. Bass and Ms. Jacobs had the opportunity to sit in on the end of that meeting and Ms. Dunn said she is really excited about the landscaping plans and the conservation plans. The pictures were absolutely gorgeous and if it looks like that, Murray City is in for a treat. Ms. Dunn is really excited about it because she is a big believer in conservation, and it is a direction we all need to be heading.

Mayor Snarr noted, Salt Lake County Flood Control has been working very closely with IHC on removing some of the vegetation that is not in a good state, broken logs and debris that have fallen into the Little Cottonwood Creek. You get that material out of there now, get it cleaned up and allow them to re-vegetate along the Little Cottonwood Creek it helps prevent flooding if there is some kind of significant snow event or run off in the spring.

Once done it will make a nice walking area in and be an extension of the trail system that was started by the Rotary Club. We appreciate them for doing that. It will go along the Little Cottonwood Creek throughout the IHC Medical Center site.

- ✓ Mayor Snarr commented on the overpass, they are making progress down at the south end. All the concrete has been poured on the deck, and they are working on both sides and before next summer they should be well finished with the project.

Ms. Griffiths mentioned a few weeks ago CEO David Grauer spoke to the Rotary Club and showed the plans for the trail. The Rotary Club is anxious to help develop and enhance the trail along the creek.

- ✓ Mayor Snarr noted he had a wonderful time with his wife when they attended the musical over at Murray High School. Special kudos to Ms. Griffiths grandson who played Tevia in Fiddler on the Rood.

#### **H. ADJOURNMENT**

Recorded by Carol Heales, City Recorder